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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,307	12/22/2000	Steve Bush	314768005US	2669

25096 7590 09/17/2003

PERKINS COIE LLP  
PATENT-SEA  
P.O. BOX 1247  
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247

EXAMINER
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HAYES, JOHN W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 09/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-18, 52-63 and 73, drawn to a computer-based method and system for determining whether first and second accounts represent the same account and combining the accounts into a single account, classified in class 705, subclass 1.
  - II. Claims 19-51, 64-71 and 72, drawn to a computer based method for authorizing access to resources by receiving requests to access the resource including user identifiers, classified in class 705, subclass 51 and class 713, subclass 201.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention I has separate utility such as determining whether first and second accounts represent the same account and, if so, then combining the accounts into a single account. Invention II has separate utility such as authorizing access to applications or resources when users submit requests with the appropriate user identifier and application identifier or resource identifier. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Hayes whose telephone number is (703)306-5447. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 5:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jim Trammell, can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

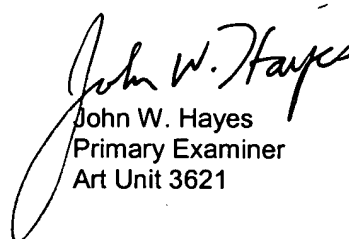
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or faxed to:

**(703)305-7687** [Official communications; including  
After Final communications labeled  
"Box AF"]

**(703) 746-5531** [Informal/Draft communications, labeled  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington,  
VA, 7<sup>th</sup> floor receptionist.

  
John W. Hayes  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3621

September 15, 2003